

## Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 212653

14

ORIGIN SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PCH-04 CCO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 DODE-00

CIAE-00 USSS-00 INRE-00 NSAE-00 /035 R

DRAFTED BY NEA TASK FORCE:JCDEAN:BN  
APPROVED BY NEA TASK FORCE:GNANDERSON  
S/S-0:RWRIGHT

----- 102821

O 290622Z OCT 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT IMMEDIATE

USDEL SALT TWO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SUVA BY POUCH

AMEMBASSY BANJUL BY POUCH

AMCONSUL CURACAO BY POUCH

AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE BY POUCH

XMT AMEMBASSY SUVA

AMEMBASSY BANJUL

S E C R E T STATE 212653

EXDIS

KUWAIT POUCH MUSCAT DOHA

BEIRUT POUCH BAGHDAD

BRASILIA POUCH RECIFE

VIENNA FOR USDEL MBFR

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: XF

SUBJECT: MIDDLE EAST SITUATION

REF: STATE 212632

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 212653

1. FOLLOWING IS MIDDLE EAST SITUATION THROUGH EVENING  
OF OCTOBER 28:
2. UNEF/UNTSO. THE UNSYG IS CAREFULLY CONSIDERING  
OVERALL COMPOSITION OF UNEF IN LIGHT OF INFORMAL

CONSULTATIONS WITH SECURITY COUNCIL MEMBERS  
OCTOBER 27. WE ANTICIPATE HE WILL REPORT HIS  
CONCLUSIONS TO SC MEMBERS IN NEAR FUTURE. NO  
MEETING OF UNSC IS PRESENTLY SCHEDULED; UN ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION AND BUDGETARY QUESTIONS  
(ACABQ) IS SCHEDULED TO DISCUSS THE FINANCING  
ISSUE MONDAY AFTERNOON. A CONVOY OF 24 UN TRUCKS  
CARRYING MEDICAL AND OTHER NON-MILITARY SUPPLIES  
FOR EGYPTIAN III ARMY WAS STOPPED BY IDF AND  
THEN ALLOWED TO PROCEED IN GROUPS OF TEN. FIRST  
GROUP ARRIVED AT ITS DESTINATION, PRESUMABLY EAST  
SIDE OF CANAL AND UNLOADED.

3. CEASE-FIRE, ALL FRONTS GENERALLY QUIET. IDF REPORTED  
IN THE SOUTHERN SECTION OF THE SUEZ CANAL; IDF  
CLAIMS TO HAVE REPULSED SEVERAL ATTEMPTED EGYPTIAN  
ATTACKS, ISRAEL COMPLAINED TO UN OBSERVERS ABOUT  
ATTEMPTED ATTACKS AND ALSO OVER SAM'S BEING FIRED  
AT IDF AIRCRAFT IN VICINITY OF ISMAILIA AT NOON.

4. DIPLOMATS ARRIVING. ISMAIL FAHMI, ACTING EGYPTIAN  
FOREIGN MINISTER, IS DUE TO ARRIVE IN WASHINGTON  
FROM CAIRO ON OCTOBER 29 WITH A "SPECIAL MESSAGE."  
ALSO, SYRIAN DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER MOHAMED  
ZAKARIYA ISMAIL IS REPORTEDLY ARRIVING IN WASHINGTON  
SAME DAY. THE TIMING OF THEIR ARRIVAL COULD SIGNAL  
AN ATTEMPT AT A COORDINATED EGYPTIAN-SYRIAN EFFORT  
WITH USG.

5. JORDAN/SYRIA. THE JAF IS RETURNING TO BUSINESS AS  
USUAL AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE AND THERE ARE REPORTS  
THAT IRAQI UNITS APPEAR TO BE DEPARTING SYRIA.  
THE THINKING IN JAF IS THAT FEARS OF IRAQI MILITARY  
INTERVENTION IN SYRIAN POLITICS WERE PROBABLY  
GROUNDLESS, BUT FINAL ASSESSMENT WILL NOT BE MADE  
SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 212653

UNTIL ALL IRAQI FORCES HAVE DEPARTED.

6. FEDAYEEN. EMBASSY AMMAN HAS RECEIVED REPORTS FROM  
BEIRUT THAT ARAFAT AND OTHER PLO LEADERS ARE  
ENGAGED IN EFFORTS TO CREATE MOMENTUM FOR AN  
INDEPENDENT PALESTINIAN STATE ON WEST BANK AND  
THAT UNSPECIFIED FEDAYEEN CONTINGENTS ARE PLANNING  
A MAJOR CONFRONTATION WITH THE GOL.

7. ISRAEL. GHANA AND SENEGAL BROKE DIPLOMATIC  
RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL ON OCTOBER 28. MINISTER  
OF JUSTICE SHAPIRO ANNOUNCED HIS INTENTION TO  
RESIGN. HE HAD EARLIER UNSUCCESSFULLY CALLED  
FOR DEFENSE MINISTER DAYAN'S RESIGNATION OVER  
CONDUCT OF THE WAR.

8. POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS. UPI ACCOUNT OF ISRAELI FOREIGN MINISTER EBAN'S REMARKS (PARAGRAPH 9, REFTTEL) HAS BEEN CALLED HIGHLY INACCURATE BY TWO AMERICAN JOURNALISTS PRESENT AT BACKGROUND SESSION. UPI WAS NOT PRESENT. TERENCE SMITH, NEW YORK TIMES, WHO WAS PRESENT, SAID EBAN REMARKED THAT TOTAL ENERGIES OF GOI PRESENTLY ABSORBED IN CEASE-FIRE AND CABINET HAD NOT DISCUSSED BLUEPRINT FOR SETTLEMENT. EBAN DID TOSS OUT SEVERAL POSSIBLE SCENARIOS IN VERY GENERAL TERMS IN COURSE OF DISCUSSION, BUT NOTHING RESEMBLING UPI ACCOUNT. HE IS REPORTED TO HAVE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT WEST BANK OF CANAL WAS NOT A "NATURAL" PLACE FOR ISRAELIS TO RESIDE AND HE REALIZED THAT EAST BANK OCCUPATION "CANNOT LAST FOREVER." ASKED WHEN NEGOTIATIONS WOULD BEGIN, EBAN WAS SAID TO HAVE REPLIED "WE ARE WAITING FOR THE BIG POWERS TO TELL US." HE SAID HE ASSUMED NEGOTIATIONS WOULD BE UNDER AUSPICES OF US AND USSR AND THAT THIS IS PREFERABLE TO ANY OTHER AUSPICES. EMBASSY TEL AVIV NOTES THAT LOCAL UPI OFFICE ALMOST TOTALLY STAFFED BY INEXPERIENCED REPORTERS.

9. POW SITUATION. IN AN OCTOBER 27 MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR KEATING, FOREIGN MINISTER EBAN STRESSED SECRET

PAGE 04 STATE 212653

CENTRAL ROLE OF A SATISFACTORY RESOLUTION OF POW ISSUE TO ANY HOPES FOR PROGRESS TOWARD PEACE IN THE ME. HE SAID THIS WAS AN EXPLOSIVE ISSUE IN ISRAEL, AND SAID THE GOI WAS KEEPING THE LID ON SOME "MACABRE" INFORMATION ABOUT ITS POW'S IN ARAB HANDS IN ORDER NOT TO INFLAME ALREADY HIGH ISRAELI FEELINGS. TO DATE ISRAEL HAS RECEIVED VIA ICRC THE NAMES OF ONLY 40 ISRAELI POW'S FROM EGYPT, AND NONE FROM SYRIA. ISRAEL NOW CLAIMS IT IS IN FULL COMPLIANCE WITH RESPECT TO REPORTING THE NAMES OF ARAB POW'S.

10. ON OCTOBER 27 AN ISRAELI SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED PLANS TO REPATRIATE ON AN ICRC PLANE 30 WOUNDED EGYPTIAN POW'S, HOPING FOR RECIPROCAL EGYPTIAN ACTION. AT TODAY'S MEETING OF ISRAELI CABINET IT WAS DECIDED TO DELAY THIS REPATRIATION UNTIL EGYPT PROVIDES ICRC ACCESS TO AND LISTS OF ISRAELI POW'S.

11. LATEST IDF ESTIMATE IS THAT EGYPT HAS 220 ISRAELI POW'S, SYRIA 97 AND LEBANON 2. IN PROVIDING THIS INFORMATION IDF SPOKESMAN MIMICED EBAN'S CONCERN OVER EXPLOSIVENESS OF THE POW ISSUE. KISSINGER

NOTE BY OC/T: POUCHED ABOVE ADDRESSEES.

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

## Message Attributes

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**To:** ALL DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS  
NOUAKCHOTT  
SALT TWO  
SUVA BY POUCH  
BANJUL BY POUCH  
CURACAO BY POUCH

MARTINIQUE BY POUCH

XMT SUVA

BANJUL

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